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JUN - 6 2011

FCC Mail Room

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

ORIGINAL

700 CAPITOL AVENUE SUITE 100 FRANKFORT, KY 40601 (502) 564-2611 FAX: (502) 564-2517

May 26, 2011

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

In Kentucky, we understand the critical role technology and innovation play in creating jobs in the 21st century. We must build the strongest business environment we can in order to attract and retain businesses that will hire the next generation of Kentuckians. One of the tools fueling economic growth is the availability of fast and dependable wireless broadband networks.

Kentucky is primarily known for coal mining, horse racing and college basketball and Kentuckians are proud of that, but the "Bluegrass State" is defined by much more than this. Farming is a big part of Kentucky's economy and the auto-manufacturing industry has grown significantly in the past five years. Every business in Kentucky can benefit from increased access to the latest high speed, mobile broadband and consumers across the country are demanding expanded access and quality broadband service. Schools, universities, hospitals and healthcare institutions can greatly benefit from next-generation 4G LTE mobile broadband. There is no question that new digital technologies are beginning to change the landscape in every facet of our lives.

The residents of Kentucky want to fully participate in the digital age, creating businesses anywhere, regardless of whether they live in a big city or a small town. Our Commonwealth is making investments and launching initiatives to enable this, but we cannot do it alone. The merger of T-Mobile USA and AT&T is a private-sector initiative that complements our efforts to build Kentucky's future now and that's why I support it. Once approved, the merged company would be able to expand the upgrade of its existing wireless networks to offer our residents, businesses, schools, hospitals, and other organizations with access to state-of-the-art mobile broadband technologies.



CHAIRMAN JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS
COMMISSIONER ROBERT M. MCDOWELL
COMMISSIONER MEREDITH ATTWELL BAKER
COMMISSIONER MIGNON CLYBURN
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In a global economy, faster broadband deployment creates jobs across all industries and sectors. As one of the larger employers in Kentucky, AT&T's capital investment and growth has benefitted hard-working families across our great state. We look forward to seeing this continue as AT&T invests in its workforce and the deployment of the newest technology to all corners of Kentucky.

In a time where the pressure to compete globally has never been greater, we must act now to ensure states like Kentucky are on the leading edge of innovation, not falling behind. This merger will help us stay competitive and move forward as we look towards the future. It is for that reason and many more that I urge you to approve the T-Mobile/AT&T merger so Kentucky businesses and consumers will be able to share in the economic benefits it will bring.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Beshear